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of cerebral localization as is to be anywhere found. Naturally in such a book the latest results on some points, as for example, the recent observations on motor reactions from sensory areas (the visual and auditory centres), are overlooked; also the increasing evidence for a decidedly detailed projection of the retina in the visual area in dogs and monkeys, is not brought out. Neither these nor other minor omissions would seriously alter the general conclusions, however, and these latter are certainly drawn with due appreciation of the development and migration of function within the encephalon and the possibilities which that conception brings with it. Motion and sensation represented in the cerebrum; consciousness as the companion of nervous currents in the higher nerve centres, and associations between these centres themselves and the lower centres, furnish the background for the subsequent discussions. Since this conception is comprehensive, simple and highly plastic, it is easily handled in the more or less speculative chapters which follow, and it would be uncharitable to find fault with it. At the same time, there are those who long to get the problems discussed into the laboratory. For their purpose hypotheses must be rigid and anatomy detailed, so that while they will find these pages full of suggestion, they will not find the relations of brain function and brain form developed in a manner which permits of experimentation until both are more narrowly formulated.

*The Origin of the Cerebral Cortex and the Homologies of the Optic-lobe Layers in the Lower Vertebrates.* ISAAC NAKAGAWA. Journ. of Morphology. Vol. IV, No. I. July, 1890.

It was natural that Edinger's statement that the homolog of the cortex in the higher vertebrates could not be traced further down the scale than the reptiles, should stimulate a more careful study of the cerebral mantel in the amphibia. We have recently reviewed a paper by Oyarzun (AMER. JOUR. PSY., III, p. 377), coming from Edinger's laboratory, which shows that undoubted nerve cells are found in the mantels of several amphibia which were examined. Quite independently and in another way Nakagawa, working under the direction of H. F. Osborn, has compared the cells in the cerebral mantel in the Amphibia (*Rana*, *Menobranchus* and *Speleperes*), the Reptilia (*Tropidonotus* and *Emys*), the Aves (*Columba*), and the Mammalia (*Didelphys*), and concludes that, though poorly developed, there is a layer of cells in the cerebral mantel of the Amphibia which must be considered the homolog of the cortex in the higher forms. In the first three classes the same method of comparison is applied to the several layers of the optic lobes, and from them a provisional scheme of the functional value of the various layers of this region is constructed.

*Ueber früh erworbene Grosshirndefekte.* Dr. v. MONAKOW. Correspondenz-Blatt für schweiz. Aerzte, Jahrg. XX, 1890.

Under this title v. Monakow briefly describes the brain of two young children in whom during the first month and first year respectively, a porencephalous condition developed which involved the region supplied by the *arteria fossae Sylvii*. In both cases the lesion was on the left side of the brain. This area is that of the inferior frontal gyrus, the *operculum*, *insula*, and the first temporal gyrus, and the general point of his discussion is the relation which these portions of the hemispheres bear to the nuclei of the thalamus. Of special interest is the comparatively circumscribed degeneration of the *geniculatum internum*, which has not been described before for man and which the author associates with the defect in the temporal lobe, thus bringing his results here into harmony with those obtained by his experiments on animals. Whether the *geniculatum internum* is associated with the sense of hearing, must still be further investigated.